

unstructured. Structured questions call for specific information relating to specific conditions. The patient's responses to structured questions can lead to either the generation or elimination of other structured questions from the interview. Unstructured questions allow for more of an open-ended response by the patient. A typical unstructured question can call for information such as a description of general health status.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a patient with access information for logging onto a server site containing a plurality of patient files, including a patient file for the patient;
- b) providing and enabling a condition-specific interview for the patient to complete regarding the patient's medical condition, wherein the content and amount of interview questions ~~can be~~ is dynamically altered depending upon responses provided by the patient;
- c) logging onto said server site by the patient;
- d) conducting said condition-specific interview with the patient by said server site;
- e) storing information obtained from said condition-specific interview in patient files at said server site;
- f) responsive to said condition-specific interview, electronically

generating, by said server site, pre-visit information including an editable preliminary chart note with information relating to the patient's medical condition; and

- g) transmitting said editable preliminary chart note to the physician.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising the steps of, after an examination of the patient by the physician:

- a) completing said editable preliminary chart note by the physician responsive to the examination; and
- b) storing said editable preliminary chart note at said server site.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising the steps of electronically generating pre-visit information responsive to said condition-specific interview that includes a pre-visit physician report with expert medical information relating to the patient's condition, by converting information responsive to said condition-specific interview ~~from language not containing technical medical terminology~~ into physician-oriented condition specific information ~~language containing technical medical terminology~~, and transmitting said pre-visit physician report to the physician in language containing physician-oriented condition specific information ~~technical medical terminology~~ for the purpose of enabling efficient diagnosis and treatment of the patient.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a

physician of claim 3, wherein said pre-visit physician report includes at least one differential diagnosis, work-up algorithm, treatment consideration, and literature reference.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising the steps of electronically generating pre-visit information that includes a pre-visit patient summary responsive to said condition-specific interview including information relating to the patient's medical condition, and transmitting said pre-visit patient summary to the patient ~~in language not containing technical medical terminology~~.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 5, wherein said step of electronically generating pre-visit information further comprises the steps of electronically generating key condition-specific questions for the patient to ask the physician ~~physician questions in language not containing technical medical terminology and~~ relating to said patient's medical condition, and transmitting said key condition-specific ~~physician~~ questions to the patient ~~in language not containing technical medical terminology~~.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 6, wherein said step of electronically generating pre-visit information further comprises the steps of electronically generating a pre-visit physician report that includes said key condition-specific physician questions and responses to each of said key condition-specific physician questions by the patient, and transmitting said pre-visit physician report to the physician in language containing physician-oriented condition specific information ~~technical medical~~

~~terminology~~ for the purpose of enabling efficient diagnosis and treatment of the patient..

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising the steps of, after examining the patient by the physician, generating a post-visit patient report ~~in language not containing technical medical terminology~~, and transmitting said post-visit patient report to the patient.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising:

a) responsive to said condition-specific interview, electronically generating a pre-visit patient summary relating to the patient's medical condition, said pre-visit summary including a plurality of key condition-specific physician questions ~~in language not containing technical medical terminology~~ and relating to the patient's medical condition, and transmitting said pre-visit patient summary to the patient;

b) responsive to said condition-specific interview, electronically generating a pre-visit physician report including expert medical information relating to the patient's medical condition, said pre-visit physician report including said plurality of key condition-specific physician questions and a response for each of said plurality of key condition-specific physician questions, and transmitting said pre-visit physician report to the physician.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 9, wherein said pre-visit physician report further includes at least one differential diagnosis, work-up algorithm, treatment consideration, and literature reference.

- Claim 11** (previously presented): A method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient, comprising the steps of:
- a) providing a server site connected to an electronic communication network, said server site including a plurality of patient files, including a patient file for the patient;
 - b) providing the patient with access information for logging onto said server site;
 - c) logging onto said server site by the patient using said electronic communication network;
 - d) interviewing the patient by said server site regarding said specific condition and storing information from the patient about said specific condition in the patient's files at said server site;
 - e) electronically generating, by said server site, pre-visit information that includes a pre-visit patient summary and an editable preliminary chart note, and transmitting said pre-visit patient summary to the patient and said editable preliminary chart note to the physician;
 - f) performing an examination of the patient by the physician;
 - g) completing said editable preliminary chart note by the physician responsive to the examination; and
 - f) storing said editable preliminary chart note at said server site.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method for creating a medical chart

regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

- a) selecting, by the physician, condition-specific educational material to be provided to the patient, and
- b) responsive to said editable preliminary chart note and said condition-specific educational material, electronically generating a post-visit report for the patient.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11, further comprising the steps of providing a plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to the patient with said pre-visit patient summary, and supplying said plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to the physician prior to the patient's visit.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

- a) supplying an access code associated with a patient to emergency personnel assigned to treat the patient; and
- b) utilizing said access code to connect to said server site and view the patient's file to assist in treating the patient.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11 further comprising, by the patient, the steps of:

- a) subsequently logging onto said server site;
- b) viewing the patient's file; and
- c) updating the patient's file.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

- a) electronically storing a group of patient files without patient identifiers such that said group of patient files avoid disclosing the identity of the patients associated with said group of patient files; and
- b) performing medical studies utilizing said group of patient files.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a server site connected to an electronic communication network, said server site including a plurality of patient files, including a patient file for the patient;
- b) providing the patient with access information for logging onto said

server site;

c) logging onto said server site by the patient, and in response to a request by the patient, registering the patient including creating an electronic file for the patient in a record database for the patient;

d) conducting a pre-visit interview, electronically generating a pre-visit summary that includes condition-specific preliminary information and transmitting said pre-visit summary to the patient; and

e) responsive to said pre-visit interview, electronically generating pre-visit information that includes a preliminary chart note and condition-specific educational material, and transmitting said pre-visit information to the physician.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising the steps of protecting the security of all transmissions to and from said server site over said electronic communication network, including encrypting said transmissions, and protecting the privacy of the patient's file on said server site.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising the step of providing a plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to the patient with said pre-visit summary, and supplying said plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to the physician with said pre-visit information.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

- a) performing an examination of the patient by the physician, and responsive to said examination, completing the patient's chart note by the physician and transmitting said patient's chart note to said server site for storage in the patient's file;
- b) responsive to said examination, electronically selecting condition-specific educational material to be provided to the patient, and transmitting said selected material to said server site for storage in the patient's file; and
- c) responsive to the patient's chart note and said selected material, electronically generating a post-visit report for the patient.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising, by the patient, the steps of:

- a) subsequently logging onto said server site;
- b) viewing the patient's file; and
- c) updating the patient's file.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising, by the physician, the steps of:

- a) subsequently logging onto said server site; and
- b) viewing the patient's file unless said patient has previously updated the patient's file to de-select the physician.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising the steps of:

- a) electronically storing a group of patient files without patient identifiers such that said group of patient files avoid disclosing the identity of the patients associated with said group of patient files; and
- b) performing medical studies utilizing said group of patient files.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A medical information system that utilizes an electronic communication network for facilitating delivery of medical services from physicians to patients, and for electronically storing patient files, comprising:

- a) a communication link to said electronic communication network;
- b) a plurality of databases stored in computer-readable form,

including condition-specific medical information and individual patient files;

c) a plurality of computer programs connected to said databases and said communication link;

d) a system for providing and enabling a condition-specific interview for said the patient regarding the patient's medical condition, wherein the content and amount of interview questions can be dynamically altered depending upon responses provided by the patient, and storing responses thereto in the patient's file;

e) a system for providing the patient with access information for logging onto a server site containing a storage of patient files for a plurality of patients including said patient;

f) a system, responsive to said interview, for generating a condition-specific pre-visit summary for the patient in preparation for a visit by the patient to a physician; and

g) a system, responsive to said interview, for generating pre-visit condition-specific material including a preliminary chart note for the physician in advance of a visit by the patient.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The medical information system of claim 24, wherein said plurality of databases include a database including key condition-specific physician questions, and further comprising a system for selecting and providing a plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to the patient with said pre-visit summary, and a system for supplying said plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to the physician with said pre-visit information.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising means for protecting the security of all transmissions to and from said server site over said electronic communication network, including encrypting said transmissions, and further including means for protecting the privacy of said patient's file on said server site.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising:

- a) a system for the physician to complete said preliminary chart note, and transmitting said preliminary chart note to said server site for storage in said patient's file;
- b) a system for electronically selecting condition-specific educational material to be provided to the patient, and transmitting said condition-specific educational [selected] material to said server site for storage in said patient's file; and
- c) a system, responsive to said preliminary chart note and said condition-specific educational material, that electronically generates a post-visit report for the patient.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising a system for allowing the patient to electronically update the patient's file.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising a system for allowing a physician to view said patient's file only if the physician has been pre-authorized by the patient.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising a system for allowing emergency personnel to view said patient's file for the purpose of providing medical care to the patient.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising a system for performing medical studies utilizing said group of patient files, wherein said group of patient files do not contain patient identifying information.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A computerized method of clinically educating a physician over an electronic network, comprising the steps of:

- a) interviewing a plurality of patients, each of said plurality of patients having one or more of a plurality of medical conditions;
- b) for each of said plurality of patients, generating a report in computerized form for the physician that includes condition-specific information regarding medical practices relating to said one or more of a plurality of medical conditions applicable to each of said plurality of patients; and
- c) prior to each interview, providing the physician with said condition-specific information in computerized form regarding medical practices relating to said one or more medical conditions applicable to each of said plurality of patients, thereby clinically educating the physician with updated medical practices relating to said one or more of a plurality of medical conditions.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF FINAL REJECTION

Applicant requests that this Final Rejection be withdrawn pursuant to MPEP sections 706.07(c), 706.07(d), and 706.07(e).

REQUEST FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEW

MPEP section 714.12 states that “The prosecution of an application before the examiner should ordinarily be concluded with the final action. **However, one personal interview by applicant may be entertained after such final action if circumstances warrant**”. Applicant would like to request a personal interview with the examiner in his case, within the time from mailing of this response to the Final Rejection and the transmission of the Advisory Action. Applicant realizes that an Applicant has no right to an interview after Final Rejection and that such interviews are always at the discretion of the examiner. Applicant earnestly believes that an interview will lead to the allowance of claims, thus, Applicant respectfully requests such action on this case.

REQUEST THAT AMENDMENT BE ENTERED

The claims presently on file in the above-identified application, as amended herein, are now believed to be written in full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to be enabling to one skilled in the art, and therefore the allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited. In amending these claims, no new matter has been added. Applicant hereby respectfully requests, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.116 and MPEP section 714.12, that this amendment be entered. This amendment places the application either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal, and therefore it may be entered by the examiner.